

TUI

THEATER OF UNIVERSAL IMAGES
P.O. Box 10036 • 1020 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey 07101
(201) 596-0407

9/14

Senator Wynona Lipman
State Senate of New Jersey
The State House
Trenton, N.J. 08608

Dear Senator Lipman:

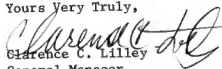
Please find enclosed a copy of the letter that was forwarded to Ms. Eileen Lawton. The enclosed letter explains our concern for the award we received from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

As a member of your House's appropriations committee, I am soliciting your support and advice in your request for an increase in our award. Ideally, we would like to receive at least 50% of our initial request which would be \$25,000.00.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me. I would like very much to hear from you concerning our status. Your advice is welcomed. Please contact Ms. Lawton with the same.

Thank you for your support in the past. I am looking forward to your reply. Thank you.

Yours Very Truly,


Clarence C. Lilley
General Manager

CCL/mb



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August 12, 1982

Ms. Eileen Lawton
Executive Director
New Jersey State Council on the Arts
109 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Ms. Lawton:

The Theater of Universal Images has received notification that we are to receive an award of \$17,000.00 for our 1982-83 season. This is double of what was awarded last year. We are grateful for this, but it in no way compares to the amount commensurate with the level of our operation in comparison to other New Jersey theaters of our level.

TUI is Newark's only professional theater company. The diverse community we service is the state's most densely populated area and many of the residents are considered economically deprived. TUI is one of only two theater companies in the state which services a predominately black and urban-ethnic minority audience. You are familiar with our programs and the positive impact our presence has had on the entire Greater Newark community and how well attended our program activities have been and continue to be. The total operating budget for our season is well over \$300,000.00. We feel that the funding history of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts to TUI has not been generous or equitable considering we have averaged only \$2,000.00 per year of the twelve (12) years of our existence.

This year we requested \$50,000.00. We were evaluated by and compared with the same criteria that all the other professional theater companies who applied for grants were measured with. We received a 1.5 rating, which is the second highest possible score a theater can receive.

Taking all the above into consideration, we did not receive what we feel is a reasonable percentage of our request as compared to the equivalent that other theater companies received.

We are requesting that the amount of the award be reconsidered and we receive our initial request.